

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5 and 13 are independent. In light of the amendments and remarks included herein, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding Official Action.

By this amendment Applicants have amended the claims to more appropriately recite the present invention. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments are being made without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's rejections, but merely to timely advance prosecution of the present application.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 13, and 15-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Donoho et al. (USP 6,801,929) in view of Focsancanu et al. (USP 5,991,292); claims 2, 4, 6, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Donoho et al. and Focsancanu et al., and further in view of Stumer (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0064271); claims 9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Donoho et al. and Focsancanu et al. and further in view of Kang (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0074450); and rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Donoho et al. in view of Focsancanu et al. and further in view of Applicants's alleged admitted prior art. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

**Examiner Interview**

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the Personal Interview conducted on October 2,3 2006. During the Interview, the parties discussed the outstanding rejections. Further, the Examiner suggested claim language that he indicated would overcome the outstanding rejections.

**Prior Art Rejections**

By this amendment, Applicants have amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner. Specifically, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite an informing system for providing information through a local area network having a plurality of various types of devices, the

informing system comprising a communication device that communicates at least with the plurality of various types of devices within the local area network. The system further includes a properties file producing device that produces a properties file storing preferences for performing a plurality of informing jobs, wherein the properties file stores settings related to at least one of the following: (1) whether or not an informing job has priority over other informing jobs; (2) whether the informing job will be performed automatically or manually; (3) a range of the informing job; and (3) which of the plurality of devices on the local area network will perform the informing job. When information is subsequently received at the communication device, a determination is made on how to provide the received information based on settings included in the properties file. The system further includes an informing device that provides the received information to at least one of the plurality of devices within the local area network to perform the informing job according to the determination made based on the settings in the properties file produced by the properties file producing device.

Based upon the agreement made during the Interview, the cited references fail to teach or suggest the properties file as claimed, wherein the informing device provides the received information to at least one of the plurality of devices within the local area network to perform the informing job according to the determination made based on settings in the properties file. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, as amended, is allowable over the references as cited. It is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejection be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 2-4 and 17-21 are allowable for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 1 at least based upon their dependency on allowable claim 1. It is further respectfully submitted that claims 5 and 13 include elements similar to those discussed above with regard to claim 1 and thus claims 5 and 13, together with claims dependent thereon, are allowable for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 1.

In view of the above amendments and arguments, Applicants believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisinet Reg. No. 52,327 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By

  
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